

In re: Friedel Niemeyer
Title: Spread Roller
Filed: September 19, 2005
Serial No.: TBA
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In the Claims:

Please substitute the enclosed claims for the claims in the original translation of the priority application PRIOR TO computing the claims filing fees:

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An ~~E~~xpander roller with a tubular roller sleeve having an inner wall and ~~(2)~~ adjustable in its curvature and that is formed of a one-piece tube made of reinforced plastic/composite material, and that is mounted on a non-rotatable central area by means of bearings ~~(13)~~, the expander roller comprising:

~~characterized in that~~

the non-rotatable central area including ~~is~~ a deformable axis ~~(1)~~, and wherein ~~that the~~ outer surfaces of the bearings ~~(13)~~ rest against the inner wall of the roller sleeve ~~(2)~~ or on at least one of a plurality ~~one~~ of the outer ring shell bushings ~~(3)~~ resting against the ~~its~~ inner wall of the roller sleeve, and wherein ~~their~~ inner surfaces of the bearings rest on the upper surface of the deformable axis ~~(1)~~ or on at least one of a plurality of a ring shell bushings ~~(4)~~ firmly surrounding it.

2. (Original) Expander roller as in Claim 1, characterized in that the plastic/composite material is reinforced with glass

or carbon fibers.

3. (Currently Amended) The Expander roller as in Claim 1 ~~or 2~~,
~~wherein~~characterized in that the outer ring shell bushings
~~(3)~~ are wider than the pertinent bearings that rest against
the bushings~~(13)~~.
4. (Currently Amended) The Expander roller as in ~~at least one~~
~~of Claims 1 through 3~~, ~~wherein~~characterized in that the inner
ring shell bushings ~~(4)~~ are wider than the pertinent bearings
~~(13)~~ that rest against the bushings.
5. (Currently Amended) The Expander roller as in ~~at least one~~
~~of Claims 1 through 4~~, ~~wherein~~characterized in that the
bearings are roller bearings.
6. (Original) Expander roller as in Claim 5, characterized in
that the roller bearings are ball bearings.
7. (Currently Amended) The Expander roller as in ~~at least one~~

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~~of Claims 1 through 6~~, characterized in that the axis ~~(1)~~ is
deformable within the roller sleeve ~~(2)~~ along generally its
entire length, and wherein ~~at that~~ the curvature of the
deformed axis ~~(1)~~ is transferred to the tubular roller sleeve
~~(2)~~ via the bearings ~~(13)~~.